

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, SCUL, GE

SUBJECT: GDR COMPLAINTS ABOUT EMBASSY LIBRARY

REF: AMBASSADOR-GRAY TELCON NOVEMBER 23, 1977

1. DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS THAT GDR COMPLAINTS (REF) ABOUT "ADVERTISING" LIBRARY HOURS IN EMBASSY DISPLAY CASE AND GDR'S CONTENTION THAT LIBRARY IS "SECOND OFFICE, " APPROVAL FOR WHICH CAN BE GRANTED ONLY ON BASIS OF RECIPROCITY, HAVE NOW BEEN AIRED "INFORMALLY" AT DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL. THOSE COMPLAINTS AND CONTENTIONS ARE NOT SUPPORTED BY AGREED MINUTE, TRANSCRIPT OF NEGOTIATIONS OF AGREED MINUTE NOR VIENNA CONVENTION.

2. UNDER THE VIENNA CONVENTION ON DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, TO WHICH THE GDR IS BOUND BY VIRTUE OF THE PROVISIONS
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OF THE AGREED MINUTE, PROMOTING FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN THE SENDING AND RECEIVING STATE THROUGH THE

DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURAL RELATIONS IS A SPECIFIC FUNCTION OF A DIPLOMATIC MISSION AS SET FORTH IN ARTICLE 3 OF THE CONVENTION. IT IS TRADITIONAL FOR DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR MISSIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS

FUNCTION THROUGH THE OPERATION OF LIBRARIES AND OTHER INFORMATION SERVICES. IN SOME CASES THESE INFORMATION SERVICES ARE PROVIDED THROUGH A MISSION SEPARATE FROM THE MAIN DIPLOMATIC MISSION, BUT OFTEN THEY ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE REGULAR MISSION.

3. IN UNITED STATES PRACTICE ANY ACTIVITY CARRIED ON BY A DIPLOMATIC MISSION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF ITS DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION WHICH IS A RECOGNIZED DIPLOMATIC FUNCTION IS ACCEPTED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WITHOUT CHALLENGE. THUS, IF THE GDR CHOSE TO ESTABLISH A LIBRARY WITHIN ITS DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN WASHINGTON, THE U.S. WOULD NOT NORMALLY INTERPOSE OBJECTION TO THIS OPERATION.

4. WHERE AN INFORMATION SERVICE IS ESTABLISHED OUTSIDE THE OPERATION OF THE ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC MISSION, THERE IS SOME PRECEDENT FOR A SEPARATE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SENDING AND RECEIVING STATES RESPECTING THE STATUS OF THE OPERATION. NORMALLY, THE ISSUES INVOLVED RELATE TO FISCAL PRIVILEGES AND COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN DOMESTIC REGULATIONS SUCH AS, IN THE CASE OF THE UNITED STATES, THE FOREIGN AGENTS REGISTRATION ACT. WHEN SUCH ISSUES DO NOT COME INTO PLAY AS A RESULT OF THE INTEGRATION OF THE INFORMATION SERVICE WITHIN THE EXISTING DIPLOMATIC MISSION, NO QUESTIONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ARE RAISED ABOUT SUCH MATTERS AS DISPLAY OF SIGNS AND OTHER IDENTIFYING INSIGNIA DESIGNED TO NOTIFY THE PUBLIC OF THE EXISTENCE AND WHEREABOUTS OF SUCH SERVICES.

5. WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT THE OPERATION OF A DIPLOMATIC MISSION AND, SPECIFICALLY, THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN SPECIFIED SERVICES IS SUBJECT TO THE RULE OF RECIPROCITY, AS SET FORTH IN ARTICLE 47 OF THE VIENNA CONVENTION, QUESTIONS OF THIS NATURE DO NOT NORMALLY ARISE UNTIL ONE STATE HAS RESTRICTED THE OTHER IN ENGAGING IN SPECIFIC ACTIVITY. CONSEQUENTLY, THE GDR HAS NO GROUND TO OBJECT TO THE U.S. PROVIDING INFORMATION SERVICES IN THE GDR UNLESS THE U.S. HAS RESTRICTED THE GDR IN THE CARRYING OUT OF SUCH FUNCTIONS IN THE U.S. IF THE GDR HAS NOT REQUESTED PERMISSION TO PROVIDE SUCH SERVICES IN THE U.S. AND, CONSEQUENTLY HAS NOT BEEN DENIED THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO, RECIPROCITY IS NOT A FACTOR.

6. IN KEEPING WITH SPECIFIC GUARANTEES OF THE CONVENTION AND THE UNDERSTANDINGS REACHED BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS AT THE TIME OF SIGNATURE OF THE AGREED

MINUTE, THE U.S. HAS THE RIGHT TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE
ITS LIBRARY IN THE GDR AND TO EMPLOY REASONABLE METHODS
FOR MAKING AVAILABLE THE INFORMATION SERVICES
INVOLVED, INCLUDING THE DISPLAY OF APPROPRIATE SIGNS
ON THE EMBASSY PREMISES INDICATING THE LOCATION AND
NATURE OF THE LIBRARY'S FACILITIES. EMBASSY MAY DRAW
ON PARAS. 2-5 ABOVE, IF GDR AGAIN COMPLAINS ABOUT
OPERATION OF THOSE FACILITIES. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LIBRARY SERVICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE296472
Document Source: CORE
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Drafter: HSHAMWELL/EUR/CE:VGRAY:DHT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: STATE
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771264/aaaaccuo.tel
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 266846
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PDIP, SCUL, GC
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Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c6763806-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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